

ARKANSAS RAZORBACK BASEBALL

(Mr. HILL asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HILL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the University of Arkansas Razorback baseball team on their successful 2015 season.

After winning their regional and super regional play, they made it to the College World Series in Omaha, Nebraska. This was the Omahogs' eighth trip to the College World Series and their fourth under the leadership of Coach Dave Van Horn.

While their season may have come to an end last week, they still have many reasons to be proud. On April 4 of this year, the team was idling with a .500 record, and postseason play seemed doubtful. They then embarked on one of the greatest turnarounds in the program's history, winning 25 of their next 35 games to finish the season with an impressive 40-25 record.

With their seemingly limitless enthusiasm and spirit, the Razorbacks represented themselves on the national stage with the determination and dedication that made all Arkansans and Arkansas alumni proud.

Congratulations on a great season, and I look forward to your continued success.

Go Hogs, go.

LET'S DREAM AGAIN

(Mr. BERA asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. BERA. Mr. Speaker, the other day, I was out in my community and was introduced to a young man, Tyus Ashby, of Boy Scout Troop 447.

Tyus and I got into a conversation, and he discovered I was on the Space Subcommittee. He asked if he could write me a letter. It is one of the requirements to get a Boy Scout merit badge. The other day, my staff passed me Tyus' letter, and I want to read from it.

Congressman, you told me you are on the committee that looks into why we aren't going to space right now. I hope you can convince them to try again. There is so much more for us to discover. I hope you tell the other people on the committee that kids like me hope they won't let the space program end before we grow up and get to be part of it. We might be missing out on something really fun and important.

Mr. Speaker, let's dream again. Let's explore. Let's invest in the research that is going to take us to the next generation, to Mars, and all the technologies that come with it. Let's not let Tyus' generation down.

□ 1230

ALZHEIMER'S AWARENESS MONTH

(Mr. COSTELLO of Pennsylvania asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. COSTELLO of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize June as Alzheimer's Awareness Month.

In 2014, approximately 270,000 Pennsylvania seniors were diagnosed and living with Alzheimer's disease. Just a little over a decade from now, in 2025, this number is expected to jump by nearly 18 percent to 320,000.

According to the Alzheimer's Association, the disease is the sixth leading cause of death in the United States and is the only cause of death in the top 10 that cannot be prevented, cured, or slowed.

As someone who watched his grandmother suffer and ultimately pass away from this horrible disease, I can say that is a startling trend that needs to be reversed starting now. That is why I am proud to have joined the Congressional Task Force on Alzheimer's Disease and committed to support greater coordination and cooperation among patients, caregivers, and healthcare providers.

Together, we can improve the long-term health of those diagnosed, and increase our efforts on combating Alzheimer's, preventing it, curing it, and slowing the disease.

IMMIGRANT HERITAGE MONTH

(Mr. VEASEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. VEASEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to mark June as Immigrant Heritage Month. I am also proud to represent and support Representative LINDA SÁNCHEZ' House resolution to recognize June as Hispanic Heritage Month.

In the closing days of Immigrant Heritage Month, we celebrate our country being fueled by immigrants from around the world and how America and her immigrants who have built our country are linked and share in a very productive history.

Members of my own staff, people who serve in the military and our armed services, police forces, and all sorts of jobs around our country help add to the history that makes America great. Each weaves their own family's unique experience into the American fabric and makes our country stronger.

Although June 30 marks the end of Immigrant Heritage Month, the universal American ethos of entrepreneurship, inclusion, strength, and resilience unifies all of us and resonates beyond the end of this month. Today and every day, I remain committed to fighting for immigrant families in my district and nationwide.

PERMANENT REAUTHORIZATION OF THE LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND

(Mr. GIBSON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. GIBSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of the perma-

nent reauthorization of the Land and Water Conservation Fund, an important program that benefits every American.

LWCF was founded 50 years ago to utilize revenue from energy projects to fund important conservation efforts. In total, it has conserved approximately 7 million acres of land and water resources, including mountains, forest, waterways, nature trails, and other beautiful aspects of our natural environment.

In New York's 19th District, for example, several different projects have benefited, including the Rensselaer Plateau Alliance's Community Forest and, potentially soon, a new improvement to the Appalachian Trail.

Unfortunately, this critical program expires in about 100 days, potentially jeopardizing important funding for many local communities, States, and private organizations. We simply can't let that happen. We must permanently reauthorize this important program.

AFFIRMING MARRIAGE EQUALITY

(Mr. GALLEG0 asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. GALLEG0. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of affirming marriage equality and providing equal protection guarantees to LGBT Americans throughout our country. Mr. Speaker, the overwhelming majority of the American public supports marriage equality. They know that same-sex couples should have access to dignity and security that only marriage can provide.

In 37 States in our Nation, this is already a reality. Today, more than 70 percent of our population live in jurisdictions where they are free to marry whom they love. However, at this very moment, marriage discrimination is still openly practiced in 13 States, taking away the securities and protections, financial and otherwise, that many Americans have, but not our LGBT Americans.

Make no mistake, Mr. Speaker; the failure or prohibition to recognize and allow same-sex couples to marry is discrimination. The fight for marriage equality for our LGBT brothers and sisters is one of the great civil rights battles of our lifetime, and it continues through our tireless efforts to achieve full equality under the law for all.

A positive Supreme Court decision on marriage is an important step towards ending the discrimination that too many American families are suffering because of where they live and whom they love. Mr. Speaker, it is the year 2015. It is well past time we end the discrimination against our LGBT Americans.

THE PROTECT MEDICAL INNOVATION ACT

(Mr. ALLEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1

minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. ALLEN. Mr. Speaker, for too long, Americans all across the Nation have felt the devastating effects of the President's healthcare plan, also known as ObamaCare. One of its many harmful provisions is the job-killing medical device tax, a \$30 billion tax hike on medical device manufacturers that has crippled growth in this industry to pay for this flawed program.

For this reason, I am proud to be an original cosponsor of H.R. 160, the Protect Medical Innovation Act, which eliminates the 2.3 percent excise tax imposed on the sale of medical devices by ObamaCare and passed in the House on a bipartisan basis.

As we continue working for full repeal of ObamaCare, this is a step in the right direction to eliminate this job-killing provision in ObamaCare that hinders our economy and hurts patients' access to quality care.

I encourage my colleagues in the Senate to quickly pass this legislation to spur innovation and bring down healthcare costs.

RECOGNIZING THE VICTIMS OF THE CHARLESTON SHOOTING

(Mr. DEUTCH asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. DEUTCH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the victims of the tragic shooting last week in Charleston: Reverend Clementa Pinckney, Sharonda Coleman-Singleton, Depayne Middleton-Doctor, Tywanza Sanders, Myra Thompson, Daniel Simmons, Susie Jackson, Ethel Lance, and Cynthia Hurd. My thoughts and prayers are with their families.

And I congratulate South Carolina for trying to lower the Confederate flag. It is the right thing to do.

But we don't stop these tragedies by retiring a racist relic. We stop them by fixing our broken gun laws, gun laws that are failing to keep guns out of the hands of those who seek to do us harm.

To fix them, Congress must act. But what has our response been? Silence: silence after Aurora, silence after Tucson, silence after Newtown, silence after daily acts of gun violence.

Mr. Speaker, America should never accept all this mourning, all this heartbreak, and all this gun violence. And shame on this United States Congress if we remain silent after Charleston.

THE RATEPAYER PROTECTION ACT

(Mr. HUDSON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HUDSON. Mr. Speaker, tonight the House will vote on the Ratepayer Protection Act, which is a response to the EPA's proposed 111(d) rule.

The divide between what is right for job creation and the policies coming

out of this administration continues to grow deeper. I have heard from countless farmers, manufacturers, businesses, and families who are concerned with the EPA's overreach and what it means for them.

In February, Administrator McCarthy asserted that no EPA rule has ever cost a single job. This is absolutely absurd and demonstrates a myopia that is absolutely stunning.

Outside of the national debt, the EPA, in general—and this proposed rule, specifically—represents one of the greatest threats to the economic prosperity of this Nation.

Our economy is recovering, and many folks are just getting back on their feet. But with this proposed rule and many others, the EPA wants to rip the rug right out from under the American people.

Families and businesses depend on access to affordable and reliable electricity. EPA's proposed 111(d) rule for existing power plants will increase rates by nearly 14 percent.

North Carolina has already reduced CO₂ power plant emissions by 21 percent, without Federal regulations. So for this and many reasons, I urge my colleagues to support the Ratepayer Protection Act.

REAUTHORIZE THE EXPORT-IMPORT BANK

(Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, this is one of the things that is actually very difficult to explain to my constituents and to most people who don't follow the ins and outs of Washington.

I was at a plant in my district in northeast Philadelphia just 2 days ago, along with Senator CASEY. This company, Agusta Westland, does excellent work and employs Americans right there in Philadelphia and in Pennsylvania. It benefits from something called the Export-Import Bank, something that has existed for 81 years and has been supported by every single President, both Democrat and Republican.

It is a program that supports 164,000 jobs a year, and just last year, created a \$675 million surplus for the taxpayers. So we have a program that helps business, creates jobs, and actually gives to taxpayers rather than taking from them. So, of course, Congress is about to allow this program to expire. It makes absolutely no sense.

It is time for the leadership of this House to listen to the will of the vast majority and not the very vocal extreme minority. Let us reauthorize the Export-Import Bank.

AN ANSWERED PRAYER FOR THE PEOPLE OF NEPAL

(Mr. AL GREEN of Texas asked and was given permission to address the

House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. AL GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I believe that a prayer has been answered.

On May 15, I took to this very podium and prayed for the people of Nepal. The prayer was that we would accord them temporary protected status if they were living in the United States. I am proud to say that Homeland Security has now issued a mandate for a 180-day registration period, 18-month temporary protected status.

I am grateful to Congressman CROWLEY and Congresswoman MENG for the letter that they sent to Homeland Security making this request that I was proud to sign on to.

I thank the President of the United States for allowing this to happen.

And, Mr. Speaker, I thank God that the people of Nepal will have an opportunity to stay in this country and not go back to the devastation that they have suffered in Nepal as a result of the earthquakes that took place there.

God bless you, Mr. Speaker, and God bless the United States of America.

WEAR RED WEDNESDAYS TO BRING BACK OUR GIRLS

(Ms. WILSON of Florida asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. WILSON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, today is Wear Red Wednesday to Bring Back Our Girls.

The news Monday of Boko Haram using two girls as suicide bombers to kill 30 people in northern Nigeria reminds us yet again why we must act now. Please cosponsor House Resolution 147, as amended, to help the Nigerian Government bring back our girls and defeat Boko Haram.

Tomorrow, Congressman SMITH, chairman of the Subcommittee on Africa, Global Health, Global Human Rights, and International Organizations, and I will host a classified briefing from the State Department. I invite you to join in this briefing on the future of Nigeria.

Today, I welcome 38 young girls from Camp Congress for Girls. Please join me on the Capitol steps after the first series of votes to take a group picture with these wonderful little girls. They are from all over the country. They are helping in the fight against Boko Haram, and they are in the gallery today.

Don't forget to tweet, tweet, tweet, #bringbackourgirls. Tweet, tweet, tweet, #joinrepwilson.